



Feeding the family during times of stress: Experience and determinants of food insecurity in an Inuit community

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Abstract:

This paper uses a mixed methods approach to characterise the experience of food insecurity among Inuit community members in Igloolik, Nunavut, and examine the conditions and processes that constrain access, availability, and quality of food. We conducted semi-structured interviews (nEuro Surveillance (Bulletin Européen Sur Les Maladies Transmissibles; European Communicable Disease Bulletin) 66) and focus groups (nEuro Surveillance (Bulletin Européen Sur Les Maladies Transmissibles; European Communicable Disease Bulletin) 10) with community members, and key informant interviews with local and territorial health professionals and policymakers (nEuro Surveillance (Bulletin Européen Sur Les Maladies Transmissibles; European Communicable Disease Bulletin) 19). The study indicates widespread experience of food insecurity. Even individuals and households who were food secure at the time of the research had experienced food insecurity in the recent past, with food insecurity largely transitory in nature. Multiple determinants of food insecurity operating over different spatial-temporal scales are identified, including food affordability and budgeting, food knowledge and preferences, food quality and availability, environmental stress, declining hunting activity, and the cost of harvesting. These determinants are operating in the context of changing livelihoods and climate change, which in many cases are exacerbating food insecurity, although high-order manifestations of food insecurity (that is, starvation) are no longer experienced.

Source: Ask your librarian to help locate this item.

Resource Description

Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker, Public

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Food/Water Security

Food/Water Security: Agricultural Productivity, Food Access/Distribution

Geographic Feature: ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Arctic

Geographic Location: ☒

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Non-U.S. North America

Health Impact: ☒

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Malnutrition/Undernutrition

Mitigation/Adaptation: ☒

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern: ☒

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children, Elderly, Low Socioeconomic Status, Racial/Ethnic Subgroup

Other Racial/Ethnic Subgroup: Inuit

Resource Type: ☒

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

Timescale: ☒

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment: ☒

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content